



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA Opens Business Recovery Center In Kahala Mall in Honolulu

Honolulu, HI – The U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) today announced the opening of a Business Recovery Center in **Honolulu**. The center is specifically designed to provide assistance to businesses impacted by the flooding and landslides that occurred from February 20 through April 2, 2006. Located in the Kahala Mall at 4211 Waialae Avenue, Suite B7 (formerly Borders Express), Honolulu, the center opens today, May 10, and will operate Mondays through Fridays from 12 noon to 8 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm, until further notice.

Business owners may visit the center anytime during its hours of operation. No appointment is needed. According to Andrew Poepoe, Hawaii District Director for SBA, “SBA’s Customer Service Representatives will meet individually with business owners to explain how an SBA disaster loan can help finance their recovery. They will provide program information, answer questions and help businesses apply for this much needed financial help. We are anxious to provide help to these businesses to help them begin their recovery. All they need to do is come in.”

Businesses of any size and private, non-profit organizations may apply to SBA for low-interest disaster loans of up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damage to real estate, leasehold improvements, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. These loans cover uninsured losses or situations where the insurance coverage falls short of the replacement costs.

For small businesses only, SBA also offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs created by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered property damage.

Business owners unable to visit the business recovery center may obtain information about SBA disaster assistance by calling (800) 659-2955. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339. Businesses and individuals should first register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by calling their teleregistration number at (800) 621-FEMA (3362).

For more information visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/disaster.

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